GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:63
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2005
REVIEW OF FOREST LAWS
Naik Shri A. Venkatesh;Shivanna Shri M;Singh Shri Ganesh

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received requests from some States to review the forests laws on the ground that they are coming in the way of addressing the problem of naxalism; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b) Some states have requested for relaxation in the guidelines issued under the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 for addressing problem of naxalism. The Government of India has granted general approval under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 for execution of developmental and security related activities like schools, drinking water, electric and telecommunication, power substation, communication post, minor irrigation hospitals, vocational training center, non-conventional source of energy, police establishment and up gradation of roads in rural areas vide order dated 3.01.05 and guideline issued dated 30.04.05.